Cigarettes can smolder for hours, starting a fire hours after the party guest have gone home.



To help prevent such a tragedy, the NFPA recommends the following safety tips:

- * Provide plenty of large, deep ashtrays, checking them frequently.
- * Cigarettes can smolder in the trash, so completely douse them with water before discarding them or flush them down the toilet.
- * After a party, always check on, between and under upholstery and cushions inside trashcans for cigarette butts that may be smoldering.
- * Keep matches and lighters up high, out of the reach of children. When smokers visit your home, ask them to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them. Children Playing With Matches.



For additional information contact the HFD Public Education Division at 713-865-7120 or visit the HFD website at www.houstonfire.org